

Finding Guide for Afognak Oral History Collection

Administrative History/Biographical Sketch

The Afognak Oral history collection was processed with funding from the National Parks Service. Over three decades, Native Village of Afognak (NVA) had amassed a collection of recordings, however this collection lacked comprehensive searching capabilities. The collection is housed at NVA's Nadia Mullen Memorial Library, and online at afognak.org.

Scope and Content Note

The recordings have been collected from 1962 until present day. Many of the recordings are interviews conducted by Jeff Leer, Gordon Pullar, Irene Reed, among others. Various topics discussed include but are not limited to place names, hunting and harvesting methods and traditions, Alutiiq myths and narratives, and historical events. Note that many of the entries contain misspelled personal names. Misspellings are used in order to maintain the integrity of the original authors work, and maintain continuity in the case that notes or transcripts are discovered; they may easily be matched with existing notes and transcripts. Please keep in mind misspellings when searching for particular individuals who may have information or interviews contained within the collection.

Series Descriptions

Volumes one through three are largely organized alphabetically. From the middle of volume three through the end of volume five, the collection is chronologically organized. The inconsistent nature of organization was used to maintain continuity with a portion of the collection that had been processed at an earlier date. However, the remainder was organized chronologically in order to facility annexation as new recordings are processed into the collection.

Inventory

Please see attached tables of content.

Note: online availability to sound files is limited. For full access please visit NVA's Nadia Mullen Heritage Library

Numbering System

The numbering system for the Afognak Oral History collection was designed to facilitate continued annexation, and was uniquely created for NVA as a user-friendly system to find items housed in the collection. The first three letters of the numbering system (NVA) stand for the transcribing and housing agency, Native Village of Afognak. The next three numbers are used to create a unique cataloging number and generally indicate the order in which items were annexed. New items should follow the last used number (ex: 102 shall be followed by 103). Similarly, no number shall repeat. Librarians or staff annexing new items must be prudent about maintaining integrity to the numbering system. The letters and numbers following the NVA-xxx indicate the volume number (ex: .v1) and the numbered item within the volume (ex: .n1). An example catalog number of NVA-004.v1.n4 means that this item is housed at NVA, is the fourth item annexed/processed, is part of volume one, and is the fourth entry of said volume.